

MAR 9 1962

Approved For Release 2000/08/03 : CIA-RDP75-00001R000400080139-3

Powers In Hospital for A Checkup

By STAN KOVEN

A heart specialist has confirmed that U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers is undergoing a physical checkup at Georgetown University Hospital, Washington.

Dr. W. Practor Harvey, staff internist specializing in cardiology, told The Post today the examination, undertaken at Powers' own expense, is a "standard series of tests."

"I'd prefer not to go into this," he added. "The information that has been given out is that he's in for a routine examination." It is not known at this time how long Powers will remain in the hospital, the doctor added.

Heart Palpitations

Oliver Powers, father of the 32-year-old pilot, said in a phone interview that his son had complained of "heart palpitations" for the past five months and "he wanted to see about this."

The doctor declined to comment on this report.

The pilot was returned to this country last month after 21 months in Soviet prisons for his May 1, 1960, flight over Soviet territory. Upon his return he was subjected to intensive questioning by a Presidential board.

Last Monday Oliver Powers disclosed to The Post that his son was in "generally run-down condition" and was in need of a checkup.

Exonerated by Senators

On Tuesday the Senate Armed Services Committee, taking its cue from the Presidential board, exonerated Powers of any misconduct attaching to failure of the U-2 flight.

Mrs. Barbara Powers, 28, announced yesterday she expects her husband to join her at their Milledgeville, Ga., home in a week to ten days, as soon as he is released from the hospital.

"He loves to fish, and we're planning a family reunion," she said.